

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for fabricating an insulating glazing unit comprising the steps of:

providing a first glazing sheet having a first perimeter;

connecting a spacer to the first glazing sheet at a location spaced inwardly from the first perimeter;

providing a second glazing sheet having a second perimeter;

connecting the second glazing sheet to the spacer such that the spacer is disposed at a location inward from the second perimeter whereby an outwardly-facing channel is formed between the glazing sheets and the spacer and an insulating chamber is formed inward of the spacer between the glazing sheets;

hermetically sealing the insulating chamber by applying ~~hot-melt-butyl~~ a primary sealant into the outwardly-facing channel after the outwardly-facing channel is formed; the ~~hot-melt-butyl~~ primary sealant extending entirely across the channel from the first glazing sheet to the second glazing sheet; the primary sealant being one of a polyisobutylene and a hot melt butyl; the primary sealant being of the type that is not cured; and

applying a secondary sealant into the outwardly-facing channel after at least a portion of the primary sealant is applied; the secondary sealant being one of a silicone, a polysulfide, and a polyurethane.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a foam-bodied spacer carrying a desiccant.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of providing the spacer with a pair of notched corners.

4. (canceled)

5. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a metal spacer.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of providing the spacer with a pair of notched corners.

7-13. (canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~hot-melt-butyl~~ primary sealant is applied to entire perimeter of the channel before the secondary sealant is applied.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the ~~hot-melt-butyl~~ primary sealant is applied at a first station with a first application nozzle and the secondary sealant is applied at a second station with a second application nozzle; the second station being spaced from the first station.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~hot-melt-butyl~~ primary sealant is applied into the channel with a first applicator and the secondary sealant is applied with a second applicator that trails the first applicator.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of retracting the applicator that applies the ~~hot-melt-butyl~~ primary sealant.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A method for sealing an insulating glazing unit having first and second glazing sheets spaced apart by a foam-bodied, desiccant-carrying spacer disposed inward of the perimeters of the glazing sheets to form an outwardly-facing channel; the insulating glazing unit having an insulating chamber disposed inward of the spacer between the glazing sheets; the method comprising the steps of:

hermetically sealing the insulating chamber by applying a hot melt butyl sealant entirely across the channel disposed adjacent the spacer and glazing sheets; the hot melt butyl sealant being applied after the outwardly-facing channel is formed; the hot melt butyl sealant forming a continuous seal that extends from the first glazing sheet to the other glazing sheet; the hot melt butyl being of the type that is not cured; and

applying a secondary silicone sealant in the outwardly-facing channel over the primary sealant; the secondary silicone sealant being disposed entirely across the channel and forming a continuous seal that extends from the first glazing sheet to the other glazing sheet.

20-24. (canceled)

25. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein the insulating chamber is hermetically sealed by simultaneously applying the primary sealant to the glazing sheets and the spacer.

26. (currently amended) A method of forming an insulating glazing unit comprising the steps of:

- providing a first glazing sheet having a first perimeter;

- connecting a flexible foam-bodied spacer to the first glazing sheet with an adhesive; the spacer being located at a location spaced inwardly from the first perimeter;

- providing a second glazing sheet having a second perimeter;

- connecting the second glazing sheet to the spacer with an adhesive such that the spacer is disposed at a location inwardly from the second perimeter whereby an outwardly-facing channel is formed between the glazing sheets and the spacer and an insulating chamber is formed inwardly of the spacer between the glazing sheets;

- applying a hot melt butyl sealant into the outwardly-facing channel to hermetically seal the insulating chamber; the hot melt butyl sealant being applied after the outwardly-facing channel is formed; the hot melt butyl being of the type that is not cured; and

- applying a secondary sealant over the primary sealant; the secondary sealant being a silicone sealant.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the spacer is free of sealant when the spacer is connected to the first and second glazing sheets.

28-31. (canceled)